

FORM NO. 51-AAA
FEB 1952

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria
SUBJECT Military, Economic, and Political
Information from the Vidin-Kula Area

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 25 June 1952

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF
INFO.NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The following represents the breakdown of a Bulgarian infantry regiment:

- a. Three rifle battalions;
- b. One machine gun battalion;
- c. One mortar battalion; and
- d. One communications company.

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2. Each infantry battalion has the following component parts:

- a. Three rifle companies;
- b. One heavy machine gun company;
- c. One mortar company;
- d. One service company; and
- e. Half a squad (sic) for communications.

3. Each company has four squads (sic)¹ of 24 men commanded by a sergeant.

- 4. There were three infantry regiments in Vidin. Battalions subordinate to one of the regiments were located in Kula and Gramada. A regiment of artillery formerly at Vidin has been transferred to Pleven. Most of the ammunition of the above-mentioned garrison is located in the magazines of the Vidin town hall or in other nearby buildings. There are fuel depots in Vidbol near the tree-lined street which runs through the village.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. An infantry regiment comprising units from regiments located at Vidin and Plevna is located at Kula. The code name of the regiment is "Galabets". Major Stoyanov is the regimental commander.
6. An unidentified regiment, code name "Elkha," is located in Bryagovo. The unit is subordinate to the Vidin Command and is commanded by Captain Stefchev. A total of 6,800 men are garrisoned in the Vidin region.
7. Vidin is surrounded by an old wall three meters high. In the eastern part of the city which extends toward the Danube, bunkers approximately three meters by three meters in size have been constructed. The bunkers are empty but are protected by trenches. Three cement bunkers covered with wood have been constructed along the road that leads to Staropatitsa and Boynitsa villages.
8. An excellent road, eight meters wide, was recently completed, joining Kristets village with the Lyava Reka (sic)² railroad station.
9. Gradets, Ruptsi, and Vidbol villages in the Vidin district have been chosen by the Soviets as areas to be levelled for the construction of airfields. As of July 1951, no installations had been erected.
10. Since 1951, Trudovak recruitment has stopped. Beginning 15 March 1951, all officers and subalterns of the reserve, up to 45 years of age, who have evidenced their faithfulness to the Communist Regime, are being recalled.
11. All reservists are obliged to turn in their military service booklets for examination and in exchange for new booklets. The reason for the change is that in the old booklets units were omitted, whereas the new booklets omit only the numbers of the camps and data which would permit identification of the unit to which the reservist is to report.

Economic

12. From August 1950 until the present, 150,000 tons of material, including coal, wood, grain and uranium, have been transported over the Vidin-Kalafat route. A large part of the products were sent to the USSR, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.
13. Peasants who join cooperatives receive five decares of land, a cow, a buffalo, five sheep, three goats, and 20 hens from the government. However, in return the peasants must render the following to the State:
 - a. For five decares of land: 75 kilograms of cereal, 35 kilograms of corn, and 25 kilograms of grain;
 - b. For each cow: 180 kilograms of milk; and
 - c. For five sheep: five kilograms of wool and 30 kilograms of milk.
14. Peasants who do not belong to the cooperatives must cultivate 62 decares of each 100 decares of land, from which they must consign the following to the State:
 - a. One kilogram and 700 grams (sic) of cereal;
 - b. One kilogram and 150 grams (sic) of corn;

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- c. 90 kilograms of peas;
- d. 85 kilograms of seed oil;
- e. 70 kilograms of grain;
- f. 16 kilograms of fat; and
- g. 42,000 leva tax.

15. The following is a list of current prices:

- a. Six hundred grams of bread, with coupon: 30 leva;
- b. Six hundred grams of bread on the black market: 80 leva;
- c. One kilogram of cereal, official price: 25 leva;
- d. One kilogram of cereal on the black market: 180-200 leva;
- e. One liter of milk: 50 leva;
- f. Meat: 150-200 leva; *
- g. Lard: 1,000 leva;*
- h. Butter: 800 leva;*
- i. Cheese: 500 leva;*
- j. Sugar: 600 leva;*
- k. Rice: 850 leva;*
- l. Peas: 150 leva;*
- m. Cotton clothing: 4,800 leva;
- n. A suit of clothes: 25,000 leva;
- o. A shirt: 2,500 leva;
- p. A pair of shoes: 10,000 leva;
- q. Men's stockings: 400 leva per pair; and
- r. Women's stockings: 1,200 leva per pair.

Political

- 16. In March 1951, fires broke out in the storehouses of the villages of Kula, Golemanovo, Boynitsa, Chichevo (sic, possibly Chichil), Medeshevtsi, Gramada, Milchina Leka, Gradets, and Novoselo, and the livestock and agricultural machinery were carried off.

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17. During a demonstration on 25 March 1951, approximately 50 women asked the authorities to "allow them to cultivate their fields as they had always done or to allow them to go to Yugoslavia." The women were dispersed partly by force and partly by promises that their situation would be ameliorated. Once the demonstration was broken up, the women were arrested.
18. The number of refugees escaping to Yugoslavia is increasing; approximately 6,000 of these refugees are from the Vidin-Kula region. Among the refugees are many soldier deserters; the families of the deserters have been transferred to the Dobrudzha.
19. On 3 and 4 July 1951, a furious battle took place between members of a resistance group and members of Militia and Army units. Fifteen members of the resistance group were killed and 30 were captured in the encounter; the Militia men and soldiers suffered heavy casualties, including the captain who commanded the group.

1.  Comment: The Italian word "squadra" is probably being used in this report to designate a platoon rather than a squad. 25X1
2.  Comment: This office could not locate a Lyava Reka in the Vidin-Kula area. Possibly the Lyava Reka located at WP-7364, AMS-M506 1:250,000 Map Series is meant. Kristets probably should read Krestets. 25X1
- *  Comment: Unit of measure not specified. 25X1

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1. An unidentified horse-drawn artillery unit arrived in the Svilengrad area. The unit has several antiaircraft artillery batteries.
2. The "Truveski" Infantry Regiment, formerly located at Yambol, has been transferred to the Sakar Mountain region. The regiment has approximately 2,000 men and 100 trucks, 10 tanks, 20 cars, and an unspecified number of motorcycles.
3. Antitank obstacles are being constructed on the Dervishka-Mogila-Topolovgrad road.
4. Trudovaks who completed the fortifications between the Turkish border and Dimitrovgrad have been transferred elsewhere.
5. Special Trudovak units are again repairing and modifying the bunkers located along the Turkish border at Lesovo, Derwent, and Srem.
6. A mission of Soviet and Bulgarian officers inspected the fortifications along the Greek and Turkish borders.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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INFORMATION REPORT

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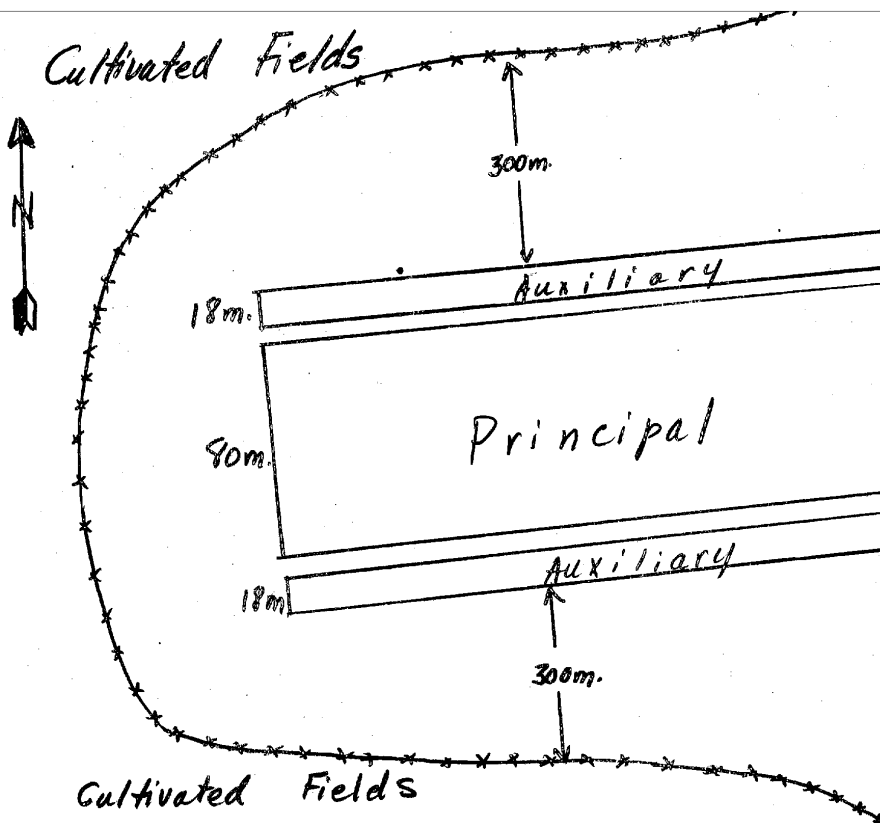
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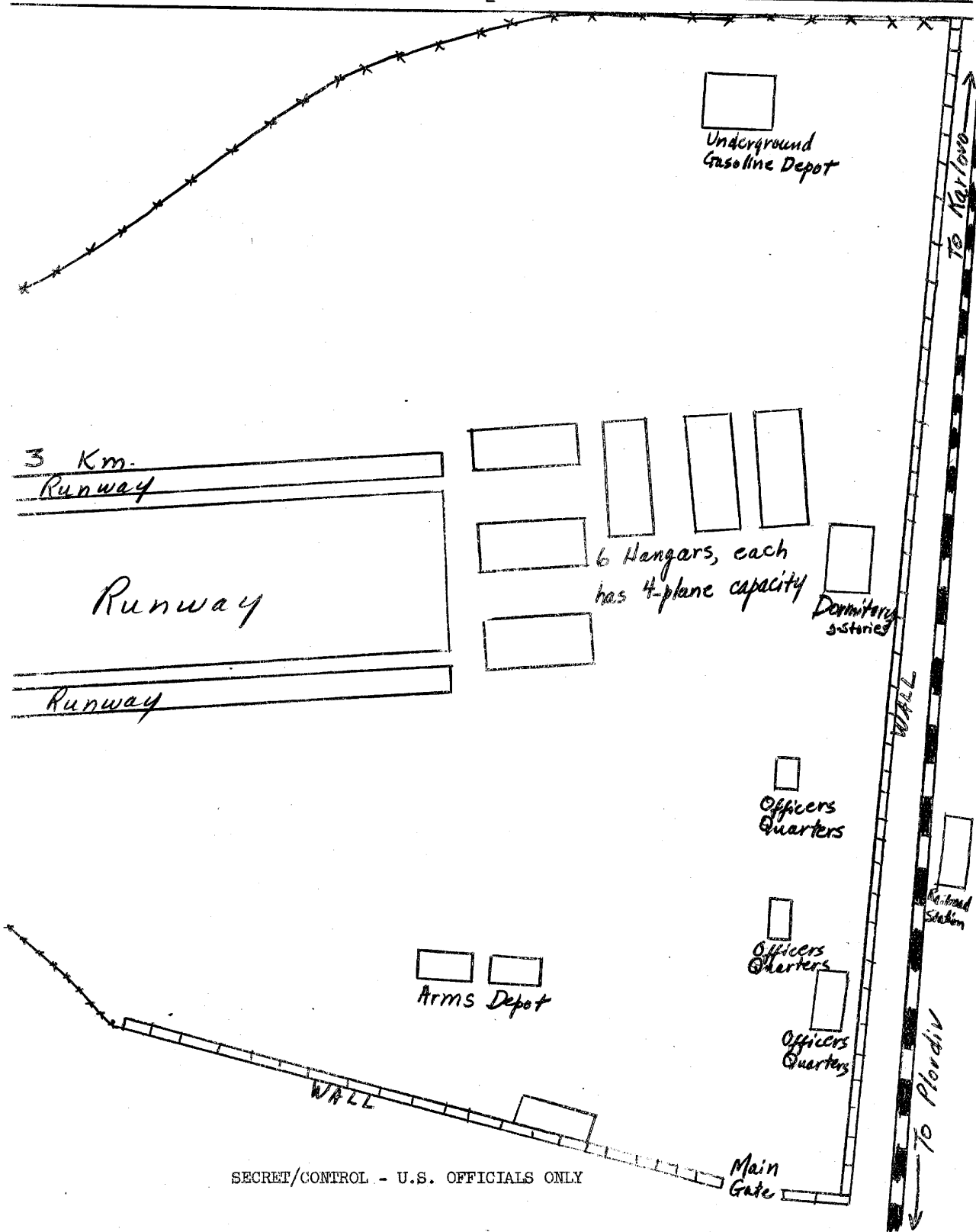
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